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INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

November 2, 1970

FROM: Richard T. Kennedy & John H. Holdridge

SUBJECT: Report from Mr. Ladd

Ladd sent in a report on 2 November (Tab A). We do not believe it warrants the President's attention.

Ladd makes the following points:

- The military situation remains unchanged -- minor enemy contacts of a harassing rather than serious offensive character.
- New plans may be in the works for the FANK. Ladd will report on this later.
- The country team fully supports the military assistance proposals which were agreed at the Senior Review Group meeting, but has reservations on the level of economic support.
- They are concerned that the total amount of economic assistance required for the rest of FY 71 may be less than currently projected and that there may be little PL-480 absorbed in terms of commodities which Cambodia can really use -- Swank has separately indicated this thought and this has been taken into account in preparation of a Supplemental.
- The Attache took a two-day trip to Kompong Cham and Tang Kouk (Chenla) in uniform -- this has excited some press interest since he was observed; the question of whether he is "really an Attache or an advisor" may arise. Ladd is discouraging trips of this kind in uniform, though he favors the trips in civilian clothes.

Attachment

State Dept. review  
completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS  
APPLY

RTK/bva:11/2/70

DIA review completed.

MORI/CDF per C05141216

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

2 November 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Brigadier General Alexander M. Haig  
Deputy Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs

The following message (Phnom Penh 371) for Brigadier General Haig was received this morning, 2 November 1970, from Jonathan Ladd:

"To: Brig. Gen. Haig, The White House

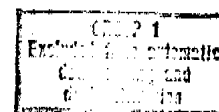
"From: Mr. Ladd, Phnom Penh

"1. The general situation remains unchanged. Minor enemy contacts occur from time to time but for the most part they are harassing attacks by machine gun and mortars and not serious offensives.

"2. On Saturday, the 31st of October, all principal FANK commanders met with Gen. Lon Nol at 1000 hours. I have not received a debrief of this meeting and Gen. Sak Sutsakhan, who is my most reliable contact, was not present. He was to return Sunday from his extended CINCPAC trip which also took him to Singapore. If he is available today, I will probably get a better handle on what is in the wind. Usually about a week or ten days after these commanders' meetings new plans or operations surface.

"3. We are, of course, busy with the readjustments and re-programming caused by the recent messages on increased assistance planning for Cambodia. The Ambassador is fully in accord with the military part of the proposals, but he has some reservations about the

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economic side of the house. He will dispatch today a message presenting his views. He discussed it with me in some detail yesterday. I had to tell him I really wasn't qualified to comment on economic matters but from a common sense point of view, I agreed that we should probably not move too rapidly in that field. The three economists from IDA who are here now seem to me to be good men who view the situation as it is. We should get their findings before we commit hard to get funds when they may not be needed. Agricultural products (foods) are not needed in Cambodia. Therefore, I see little purpose in PL-480 money unless it can be spent on petroleum, textiles, or something the Cambodians actually need. I am again out of my field of experience so will change the subject.

"4. It is with regret that I predict you are going to see press attention developing with respect to the Defense Attache. Last week he arranged with the MR I commander a trip for himself alone to Kompong Cham and Tang Kouk (Chenla). I was not informed of it until after the fact. He stayed two days and wore his soldier suit (fatigues with 1st CAV patch). In Tang Kouk a member of the press saw him and asked him what he was doing there. The word has passed to other press corps people who told me of it yesterday. They wanted to know if Col. Amos was really the attache or a military advisor from the 1st CAV Division using the attache office for cover.

"5. I am in favor of trips by the attaches and the report of this particular trip was very interesting and informative. I do not believe, however, that under the circumstances of our operation here, military uniforms are desirable -- particularly when visiting units in the field.

"6. By the way, the report of the cited trip was sent to DIA in SSO channels along with another excellent report on the status of FANK armor."



Cord Meyer, Jr.

Acting Deputy Director for Plans

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